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THE DENISON JOURNAL of RELIGION

The content of the Journal shall be academic discourse which promotes and illuminates community dialogue. Appropriate topics of submission include but are not limited to the secular critique of religion, inter religious dialogue, the interpretation of sacred texts, the interaction of religion and society, the validation of ethical discernment, and issues of race, gender, and class.

Student Editors

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Note from the Editors

Founded four years ago by a collaboration of students and faculty, *The Denison Journal of Religion* is produced once a year to showcase the wide range of scholarship taking place within the religion department. The variety of articles also reflects the diverse interests of students who were challenged to think in new ways and connect the issues of religious studies with other interests and concerns both through classes and independent projects.

It is our hope that the submissions chosen for this year will not only continue the journal's tradition of excellence, but will also promote an ongoing discussion of the relevance of religious studies for the present day. In addition to representing the array of work being done within the department, we chose topics that we feel are important for students today. Issues of environmental preservation, social justice, and religious pluralism appear alongside essays on art history and biblical studies.

About the Contributors

John Bartholomew

John graduated in 2004 with a degree in English Literature and plans to attend law school in upcoming years to pursue a career in environmental or public interest law. John is from Broadview Heights, Ohio and is a member of the United Methodist Church. His submission was a final paper written for a cross-listed Religion and Economics course entitled "The Human Condition".

Lauren Caryer

Lauren is a junior pursuing a double major in Religion and Art History, with a possible minor in Philosophy. In addition to her academic interests, Lauren enjoys coffee, Rachmaninoff, and long walks. Her submission combines both of her disciplines and was written for a senior seminar on Genesis.

Chris Byrnes

Chris graduated in 2004 with a degree in Religion and Physics. While at Denison Chris began the Denison Religious Understanding group, which works to open dialogue between different religions. In his junior year, he studied abroad in India, where he took time to reflect on and deepen his understanding of his Catholic faith. His submission is taken from his Honors Project.

Al Klingler

Al graduated in 2004 with a degree in Religion and Economics. He grew up as a Catholic in Winnetka, Illinois where he still resides today. Throughout his life, Al found himself struggling with what was being taught in his Catholic School, frequently questioning the religion. His time at Denison and in the Religion Department have led Al to a deeper understanding of himself and his religion as he was introduced to new ideas and encouraged to ask questions. His submission was written as a research paper for a senior seminar on Genesis.

Meghan Henning

Meghan graduated in 2004 with a degree in Religion and Economics. Originally from Canton, Ohio, Meghan is headed to Yale to work toward a Master of Arts in Religion and is eventually hoping to pursue a Doctorate of Religion. Meghan is interested in New Testament Studies and Feminist Hermeneutics, and outside the classroom enjoys reading historical fiction and knitting. Her submission was written as a research paper for her senior seminar.

Sarah Pyle

Sarah graduated in 2004 with a degree in Religion and English. Her hometown is St. David's, a suburb of Philadelphia, where she is now helping a local woman launch a new business. Sarah has been an intern at the Granville Presbyterian Church, and worked in her junior year to bring Relay for Life to Denison's campus in a successful effort to raise money for cancer research. Her submission is taken from her Honors Project.

Emily Teitelbaum

Emily is a senior Psychology major and Religion minor. Her interest in the Religion Department was sparked by a course on "World Religions" as well as the course "Religion and Society". Emily is interested in the ways that religion can be applied to better our society today. Emily hopes to attend graduate school for either Psychology or Religion. Her submission is taken from a summer research project that she conducted under the Woodyard Scholar program after her sophomore year.